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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0454  
INFO RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS IMMEDIATE  
RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 1176  
RHEHAAA/THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUMIAAAA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE  
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SENSITIVE  
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STATE FOR WHA A/S TOM SHANNON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [AMGT](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [KDEM](#) [MARR](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#)

TFH01, HO

SUBJECT: TFH01: PRESIDENT ARIAS' CALL TO AMBASSADOR LLORENS

1. (SBU) Costa Rican President Arias called the Ambassador late on Friday, August 14. He seemed to be recovering well from the flu and was at his home resting. The Ambassador briefed him on how he saw the situation in Honduras and stressed the importance of a successful visit by the OAS Foreign Ministers. The Ambassador agreed Micheletti's recent public comments again suggesting that Insulza was not welcome were unhelpful. The Ambassador noted that somewhat better was the statement made by the Corrales delegation on Thursday at a press conference in Toncontin Airport upon returning from DC reaffirming that Insulza was expected to be with the delegation. The Ambassador emphasized to Arias the importance of arranging a substantive schedule for the Foreign Ministers with the regime, civil society, business, and religious leaders as well as pro-Zelaya social sector supporters. The Ambassador also stressed the importance of giving them a fair hearing, at the same time as having the Foreign Ministers explain the international community's expectations and strong hope that both sides return quickly to San Jose in order to reach and sign a final agreement.

2. (SBU) Arias concurred that was his expectation as well. He expressed concern that the regime may be seeking to stall and delay. He said the regime delegation did not seem fully committed to reaching a deal and seemed focused on tinkering with the political amnesty question. Arias believed that the core regime supporters in the business community were still strongly resisting an agreement. He suggested that the US needed to increase the pressure on them and consider taking away their visas and possibly freezing their bank accounts. The Ambassador said he would pass on these suggestions. The Ambassador informed him that the Embassy was reaching out to people in Honduras and urging the importance of a successful Foreign Ministers meeting as a prelude to a final agreement. The Ambassador said he would also speak to Corrales and get him focused on having the regime prepared for the Foreign Ministers with creative and concrete ways of bolstering the enforcement aspects of a final deal. Arias thanked the Ambassador for the support and both agreed to speak again soon.

HENSHAW